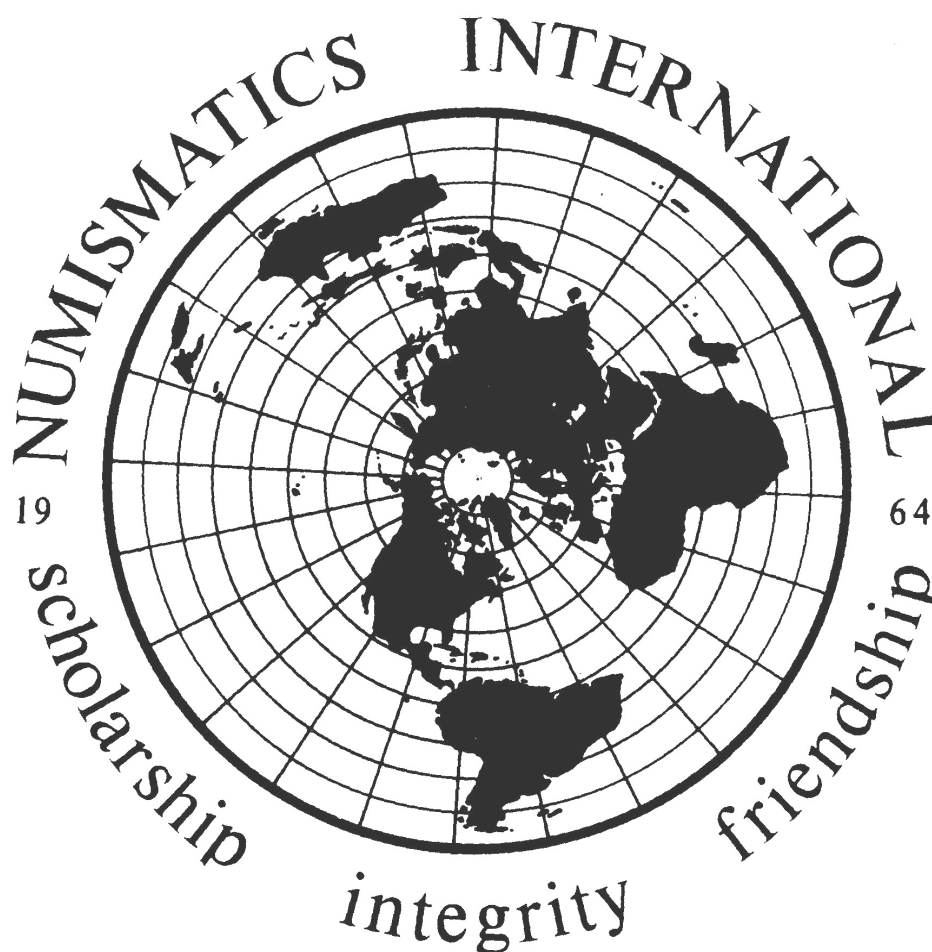


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Welcome to the March/April edition of the bulletin which is abbreviated to accommodate bundling with the NI Mail Bid sale catalog for postal delivery. Even though the bulletin is briefer we hope that you find it interesting and informative. We have the final installment of Greg Brunk's series "Coins Countermarked with Political Messages and Related Pieces" and on page 53 we have an index of the series. Dean Thomas favors us with his first article in the bulletin which concerns an interesting medal for Holy Roman Emperor Charles VII.

The NI discussion group on Yahoo recently addressed a counterstamped early New World coin from Santo Domingo. The internet platform allowed quick discussion of the coin and with the contributors' permission I've edited the exchange and included it in these pages for our readers. If you are interested in early Spanish Colonial coinage you ought to read it.

Finally on the back cover we have a medal from a Stacks-Bowers & Ponterio which I find emotionally moving. I suppose this makes it a true art medal. In my 54 years of collecting I've seen many historical, beautiful and interesting coins and medals but this one more than any other I can remember draws me to meditate about it.

Herman Blanton

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Charles VII 1742 Proclamation Medal

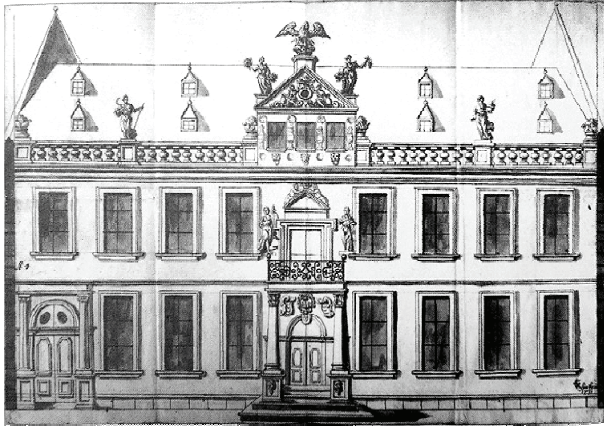
Dean Thomas, NI #2762



Emperor Charles VII Proclamation Medal 1742 in Silver

Charles (Karl) was born son the of Maximilian II Emanuel, Elector of Bavaria, in Brussels on August 6, 1697. Upon his father's death in 1726 Charles was named Duke of Bavaria and Prince Elector. The War of the Spanish Succession would complicate family loyalties when on October 5, 1722 Charles married the Archduchess of Austria Maria Amalia a daughter of the Emperor Joseph I.

The War of Austrian Succession erupted in 1740 over the ostensible issue of the right of Maria Theresa to inherit the crown of the Holy Roman Empire from her father Emperor Charles VI. In 1741, Charles Albert formed an alliance with France and Spain against Austria and in December was crowned King of Bohemia. However, he aspired to more and was elected "King of the Romans" on January 24, 1742.



Palais Barckhaus [Wikipedia]

Nineteen days later on February 12, 1742, he was crowned "Holy Roman Emperor" at Frankfurt. Shortly after the coronation, Austrian troops of Maria Theresa's overran most of Charles's territories and he was forced to take up residence in the *Palais Barckhaus* in Frankfurt. Charles was ridiculed as the emperor who neither controlled his realm nor his empire, and his top general, Ignaz Felix, Count of Törring-Jettenbach, was likened to a drum, as people "only heard about him when he was beaten!"

In a series of battles in 1743-44, the new commander of the Bavarian army, Friedrich von Seckendorff, allied with Frederick II of Prussia, forced the Austrian army out of Bavaria. In October 1744, Charles regained Munich, but died there at the age of 47 on January 20, 1745.

Both gold and silver pieces were produced to proclaim Charles VII's coronation at Frankfurt in 1742. These proclamation medals had the same designs on the obverses and the reverses:

Obv. CAR•VII•R•IMP•S•A•EL•FRANCOF•D:24:M•IAN•1742 surrounding the right-facing bust of Charles. The full Latin would be “*Carolvs Septimvs Romanorvm Imperator Semper Avgvstvs Electvs Francofurti Die 24 Mensis Ianuarii 1742*” which in English is “Charles VII Roman Emperor Ever August Elected Frankfurt Day 24 Month January 1742.”

Rev. A half-sun shining from 10 o'clock on an open book with “DE CA / LO GVS” (the Ten Commandments) upon its pages. The Book sits on the Ark of the Covenant. From 8 o'clock around to 4 o'clock the inscription “VNIONE ET OBSERVANTIA LEGUM” which translates to “Union, and observing the laws” partially encircles the Ark.

It is an interesting observation that, except for one, all the Holy Roman emperors were of the House of Habsburg from Albert II of Habsburg (1438-39) until the Empire was dissolved by Napoleon in 1806 after which Emperor Francis II became Francis I of Austria. The only exception to the Habsburg rule in this period was Charles VII and even he had married into the Habsburg family.



1742 Coronation Medal by Vestner

The coronation of Emperor Charles VII and Empress Maria Amalia

Obv. The conjoined busts with the inscription: CAROLVS VII • D • G • ROM • IMP • S • A • MARIA AMALIA D • G • ROM • AVG • [Charles VII by the Grace of God Roman Emperor Ever August Maria Amalia by the Grace of God Roman Empress August]. Below Charles: VESTNER•F• **Rev.** Majesty personified (l.) holding Imperial Shield and Grace (r.) holding cornucopia. Altar in center with Imperial Crown, Orb, Scepter and Sword resting on cushion atop what looks to be a coronation robe. DIGNISSIMA MAIESTATIS ET GRATIAE ORNAMENTA [Most Noble Majesty and Grace Adorned?]. In exergue: CORONATVS XII • FEBR • CORONATA VIII • MART • MDCCXLII • [Crowned XII February Crowned VIII March 1742]. Bronze, 41.5 mm, 24.2 g, plain edge. [Joseph und Felner-754,

Montenuovo 1664.]

Interestingly, a century later in the United States of America, an illustration of the reverse of the silver ducat appeared in “John Thompson’s *Coin Chart Manual* supplementary to the *Bank Note Reporter* containing facsimiles of the various gold and silver coins found in circulation.” Thompson was variously a Banker, Stock and Exchange Broker, and Publisher doing business in New York City in the mid-nineteenth century. The *Coin Manual* illustrated drawings of hundreds of American (North and South) and European coins— many showing both sides. Thompson’s claim that they were all pulled from circulation, ostensibly in New York City in the 1840s and 1850s, may or may not be entirely true, but they certainly could have been given that New York was the largest entry port into the United States, both for trade and immigration. Besides, many of these coins were legal tender (until 1857) and those that were not officially recognized as such still had intrinsic value. According to Thompson, the 1742 silver ducat had a value of 8 cents, and he was willing to pay the assigned amount for any of the coins. Other listed coins with a worth of 8 cents were the 1 real of the Colombian Republic, the French 10 sols and 1/2 franc, the Italian State of Parma’s 10 soldi, the Greek half drachme, the 4 mariengroschen of Brunswick-Luneburg, and the Netherlands 25 centimes piece.

The silver 1742 ducat here weighs 2.5 g. The gold ducat never made an appearance in the “Coin Chart Manual,” or any of the other similar period publications. The auction house *Gerhard Hirsch Nachfolger* sold a gold two ducat weighing 6.88 grams (02.05.2102 lot 1557) and Krause and Mishler list the gold ducat as Frankfurt No. 197 with a weight of 3.50 g.

NI

Picture Quiz



Image courtesy Stack's Bowers Galleries

What is this coin type and for extra achievement who issued it?
Answer elsewhere in this edition.

NI

Coins Countermarked with Political Messages and Related Pieces
Gregory G. Brunk, NI #749
(Continued from November /December 2013 NI Bulletin)

Catalog: Part U (United States)
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— UNITED STATES (cont.) —

STONE MOUNTAIN COMMEMORATIVE HALF DOLLARS

The most controversial US commemorative coin was minted to help fund a monument to the Confederacy on Georgia's Stone Mountain, which is located east of Atlanta. Northerners had hoped that the Compromise of 1877 would result in Southern Whites "behavin," and when the last of the Federal troops were withdrawn at the end of Reconstruction that Southern Whites would embrace Blacks as their equals in a reformed political system. That did not happen. Northerners of the day correctly viewed most White Southerners as unrepentantly evil. Terrorist acts were common in the South until the sixties, with most Blacks disenfranchised. There was also discrimination against Jews, Catholics and other minorities, and when President Kennedy was assassinated in 1963, students in many Southern schools erupted in spontaneous celebrations! Hence the controversy in commemorating the oxymoron of "Southern honor."

In 1915 the Ku Klux Klan was reorganized in a meeting at Stone Mountain, and the owners of the land granted the Klan the perpetual right to hold meetings there. That same year an association was created to construct the monument. Gutzon Borglum, who later created Mount Rushmore, was hired as its sculptor. Construction was delayed until 1923, by which time it was obvious to the Stone Mountain Confederate Memorial Association that the cost of the endeavor would be huge.

As a way to raise money, the Association decided to take advantage of the fad of minting commemorative half dollars, and appealed to Congress to mint one for Stone Mountain. From the beginning of the project, Borglum had been worried that those involved in fund raising would steal everything they touched, and he repeatedly pressed for an accounting of Association funds. As it turned out, Borglum's fears were justified, but an audit was not conducted until most of the money had disappeared!

When Congressional legislation was drafted in 1923 for a Stone Mountain commemorative coin the project was highly controversial. To soothe Northern sentiments, the bill was modified so the half dollar would also commemorate President Warren G. Harding. The revised bill passed in March of 1924, and up to five million coins were authorized. The Association now asked Borglum to design the Half Dollar as well as continue his work on the monument. Borglum's initial designs were rejected by the US Mint as awkward and cluttered. The design finally approved by the Mint dropped all reference to President Harding, and only memorialized "The Valor of the Soldier of the South".

As it turned out, Borglum's innovative carving techniques for the monument were a failure. Eventually he was fired by the Association, which by then was having grave financial problems. In retaliation, Borglum destroyed his models for the monument,

and the Association had him arrested. Borglum's dismissal and arrest were perhaps the final blows to the fund raising project. Those acts greatly angered even the Atlanta chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy, and the national UDC did not continue its official support for the project.



1925 Stone Mountain Commemorative Half Dollar

The half dollar's design portrays Generals Stonewall Jackson and Robert E. Lee on horseback. For many years after the Civil War, Confederate President Jefferson Davis was scapegoated by Southerners for the South's defeat. Nor would Northerners tolerate him appearing on a US coin, but he was included in the final version of the monument.

Roughly 2.3 million coins were struck in 1925, and were to be sold for \$1.00 each. As Hyder and Colbert noted (1985: 466), "The shenanigans associated with the issuance of half dollars are legendary in numismatics, but none is more mysterious than the variety of schemes devised to sell the Stone Mountain half dollar." The "Harvest Campaign" was conceived to get the support of Southern governors. Each of the Confederate states, the District of Columbia, and Oklahoma—which had been a Confederate territory during the Civil War and whose southeastern area is still called "Little Dixie"—was allocated a quota of coins *based on its "white population and bank deposits."*

As is obvious from this overtly racist criterion for selling the half dollars, the Northern concerns about honoring an unrepentant moral evil were justified. A political cartoon of the day (Hyder and Colbert 1985: 472) showed Uncle Sam offering his hand in friendship to a Southern gentleman in hopes of reciprocation, but the caption read, "Will the South accept his offer or pass it by?" It passed it by! Lynchings were common in the South, and the Ku Klux Klan was a feared political force, only a few decades earlier the US Army had worried about the potential of Southern terrorism! The Army was afraid Southerners would conduct terrorist attacks against its troop trains as the United States mobilized soldiers in Florida in preparation to invade Cuba during the Spanish-American War. In fact, a train carrying Rough Riders was derailed in Tupelo, Mississippi, killing several of them and injuring their commander, but that derailment may have been accidental.

In any event, the Association needed a great deal of money to continue its operations, and the half dollars were not selling well at twice their face value. So the Association began countermarking coins to indicate locations in Southern states and had them auctioned locally. A letter from the executive secretary in charge of auctioning coins

in South Carolina reported their price varied from \$10.00 to \$110.00, with \$23.00 being the average. He also noted a coin had sold for \$1,330.00 in Bradenton, Florida, and suggested that this be mentioned as part of the sales pitch before each subsequent auction (Stearns 1977: 2245-2246). In the early 1930s, C. H. Orr wrote a letter to the editor of *The Numismatist* (1932: 455) that recounted his experiences.

I was local chairman selling the coins in Honey Grove, Texas, and I had the coin stamped "No. 143," the number of my district, and "Texas" also stamped. These special coins were sold to the highest bidders, and brought as much as \$262 each in one town. There was only one of each particular stamp and I suppose Tennessee did the same thing as the Texas State Committee.

Hyder and Colbert (1985) cite a 1926 Harvest Campaign brochure which notes four classes of coins could be purchased. The first and most commonly seen are pieces dedicated to municipalities. Most of these have state abbreviations and locality numbers. They came with a certificate, and the educated guess is a group of dollars would be countermarked for each state by the national distribution authority. These were stamped with successive numbers, and what town got what number was a matter of chance.

Adna Wilde's grandfather was the son of a Confederate general, and was appointed by the Governor of Mississippi to distribute Stone Mountain Half Dollars in Warren County (Wilde 1987: 1635). His diary entry for June 6th, 1925, noted that, "We auctioned off to the highest bidder at Opera House tonight, a numbered Stone Mountain Coin (No. 609) and Mr. R. Weil becomes purchaser (for) \$30.00."

The second class consists of United Daughters of Confederacy pieces. These are stamped "U.D.C.", a chapter number, and a state abbreviation. That is sufficient information to allow such pieces to be identified precisely by searching the Internet. Third are Sons of Confederate Veteran pieces. So far none of them has been identified, probably because they are not countermarked coins, but were special in another way.

Finally there are pieces that honor student excellence. The "G.L." and "S.L." countermarked half dollars apparently are of this sort. An educated guess is these abbreviations mean "gold laureate" (valedictorian—first in class) and "silver laureate" (salutatorian—second in class). All known pieces of this sort have relatively low numbers, with 1 and 2 being the most common. What does this suggest? Perhaps the coins were only used in a single year, and were initially intended to be presented to the top two graduates of a state's major universities. Both the "G.L. 27" and "S.L. 27" pieces of Oklahoma are known, which may mean they were not awarded.

Wilde (1987) reports such coins often have loops or bezels, and one of the "G.L." coins came with a gold bezel. An auction listing for "VA. U.D.C. 1482" noted that it had been forcefully removed from a "frame," apparently a bezel, which left gouges in the reeding at 12:00. That piece probably had been mounted to be worn as a brooch or on a neck chain.

Eventually the Stone Mountain Confederate Memorial Association had to return a million coins to the Mint for melting as they could not be sold, no matter how much hype. As still is typical of so many projects in the Deep South—whose states are legendary for their corruption—most of the money from selling the Stone Mountain Half Dollars disappeared! The financial accounts were not so much cooked as not

kept. A generous interpretation is that there was a 66% overhead cost in selling the half dollars, but as a 1928 audit reported, “The records of the Association have not been maintained in such a manner as to permit of accurate ascertainment...” (Quoted in Hyder and Colbert 1985: 481). The great irony of the debacle is that what started out as an attempt to commemorate “Southern honor” revealed how little “honor” there was in the South! “Honor” was nothing more than a code word to perpetuate racism and corruption!



OKLA and 22 S L Countermarks

After Borglum was fired, Augustus Lukeman was hired. He redesigned the monument, but could not get much work done by March 20, 1928, when the massive monument was supposed to have been completed! According to the agreement with the owners of Stone Mountain, the Association’s failure to complete the project by that time would result in ownership of the land being returned to the Venable family, which had donated it for construction. Since the mountain had considerable value for mining granite, the Venables reclaimed the land in 1928. In 1958 the state of Georgia authorized the purchase of the mountain as a state park, but work on the monument was not resumed until 1963. Its completion in 1970 was funded by the state of Georgia.

What is particularly odd about these countermarked half dollars is that the stamps are not placed systematically on the coins and state abbreviations sometimes are stamped over each other. Most stamps appear in one of four places on the coin’s reverse so as not to desecrate Jackson and Lee:

1. In the upper field to the left of the eagle.
2. In the lower field to the left of the eagle.
3. On the rock upon which the eagle stands.
4. At the edge between the eagle’s left wing and the bottom legend.

But the countermarks are not always aligned at the same angle, and the countermarks sometimes appear on both sides of the same coin! In other words, the stamping was sloppy and poorly done. It reflected the lack of professionalism of those who ran the Harvest Campaign, whose real goal was to loot as much money as possible from the Memorial Association.

Geographical Locations

ALA.	Alabama	N	Nashville
ARK.	Arkansas	N. CAR.	North Carolina
D.C.	District of Columbia	OKLA	Oklahoma
FLA.	Florida	S. C.	South Carolina
GA.	Georgia	TENN.	Tennessee
KY.	Kentucky	TEXAS	Texas
LA.	Louisiana	VA.	Virginia
MISS	Mississippi		

Miscellaneous

A	Unknown	G.L.	May mean Gold Laureate Academic Prize
K	Unknown	S.L.	May mean Silver Laureate Academic Prize
T	Unknown		
U.D.C.	United Daughters of the Confederacy		

References:

- Hyder, William D. and Colbert, Ray W. 1985. "The Selling of the Stone Mountain Half Dollar," *Numismatist* 1985: 466-484.
- Numismatist. 1932. "Countermarked Stone Mountain Half Dollars," *Numismatist* 1932: 455.
- Stearns, Radford. 1977. "Georgia's Stone Mountain," *Numismatist* 1977: 2237-2248, 2461-2473.
- Wilde, Adna G. 1987. "Counterstamped Stone Mountain Half Dollars: Where Are They Today?" *Numismatist* 1987: 1633-1643.

RACIST COUNTERMARKS

A number of countermarks are associated with racism. There certainly are more than those listed below, but some are so offensive that their legends were not detailed in earlier listings. Indeed, many auction houses appear to have refused to accept such material beginning a few decades ago. The problem now is that so many fake items have been made for collectors that it is difficult today to determine what pieces are real! That is particularly the case with Ku Klux Klan items.

Confederate Battle Flag

The Confederacy employed a number of flags on a trial basis, but none of the early ones proved satisfactory because many of them were largely white and could be mistaken as flags of surrender. The flag that people think of as the Confederate flag is the Stars and Bars that eventually became a common Battle Flag that was used by most Confederate forces.

The Battle Flag was incorporated into some Southern state seals and state flags during the Civil Rights era. By the 1980s there was a movement to remove the Battle Flag from all official sites, but many Whites viewed its removal as an insult to their "cultural heritage," which was a code word for racism. Removing the Battle Flag

remained a hot topic among some Southerners, particularly in South Carolina where the Civil War began.

A search of the internet revealed a number of letters to the editor of various publications from people who reported they had found South Carolina state quarters with a Battle Flag countermark. The most detailed information appeared on the blog of the *National Journal*. An anonymous contributor wrote,

There were initially \$500.00 worth of uncirculated South Carolina state quarters purchased by a gentleman, who is now deceased, who counterstruck the quarters. It is unknown if he had the chance to strike all of them before his passing. There exists state quarters from Mississippi and Tennessee which bear the same counterstrike die. These were done in fewer numbers. The gentleman did very few whole sets. These consist of every state quarter which were part of the south during the civil war.

The gentleman who countermarked the quarters and put them back into circulation was not identified. But he may have been the same person who stamped the Battle Flag in red ink over the portrait of Abraham Lincoln on five dollar bills.



Confederate Battle Flag

Southern State Commemorative Quarters, mostly South Carolina



State Quarter

Ku Klux Klan

This Protestant organization was anti-Black, anti-Jewish, anti-Catholic, anti-immigrant, etc. Its membership peaked in the 1920s when millions of White males belonged to the Klan, including many politicians and judges. In some ways it was an odd sort of social club, and almost all White Protestant males were Klan members in some parts of the US. It also served as a political organization, sponsoring candidates

for local, state and national office, but in the states of the former Confederacy it engaged in mass terrorism, burning crosses to frighten non-members and lynching Blacks.

The last Klan lynching occurred in Mobile, Alabama, in 1981. The founder of the Southern Poverty Law Center brought suit against the United Klans of Alabama on behalf of the randomly chosen Black's deceased relatives. They were awarded seven million dollars in damages, and that verdict bankrupted the United Klans of Alabama. Since the 1960s a large number of fake Klan pieces have been made. The writer has not been able to examine any of these pieces to determine their letter style. They could be contemporary. They could be recent fakes. Or they could be souvenirs sold at swap meets where pro-Confederate bumper stickers and other items have been sold in recent years.

K K K

Nickel: 1923, 1948

Read the Menace

The Menace was published in Aurora, Missouri, by The Menace Publishing Company, whose editor was Wilbur Franklin Phelps. During the election of 1912, Phelps urged his readers to support the continued separation of church and state, which had become a code phrase for anti-Catholicism. He popularized the ditty:

Read the Menace
Get the Dope
Go to the Polls
And Defeat the Pope

The slogan "Read the Menace" also appears over a one-room school house on celluloid pinbacks of the era. Why? Until the early 20th century it was common for public schools to teach from the *Bible*. Protestants saw no problem in teaching religion until Catholics wanted to do likewise. Then the Protestants revived Thomas Jefferson's doctrine of the separation of church and state as a way to suppress Catholic beliefs and try to keep Catholics out of office. Catholics were said to not be real Americans, were agents of a foreign power, and were controlled by Rome.

The rhetoric of the various publications of the Menace Publishing Co. was so vile that its owners were charged with obscenity in *US vs. Menace Publishing Co.* (1913) for publishing *The Menace* and an anti-Catholic book called *The Pope, Chief of White Slavers, High Priest of Intrigue*. They were acquitted by a Missouri jury.

READ / THE / MENACE

Quarter: 1907



MISCELLANEOUS TWENTIETH CENTURY ISSUES

A number of what might loosely be called political countermarks have been issued in recent years. There are many small countermarks on Lincoln cents, such as the bust of John Kennedy and Masonic emblems. They were sold as novelties and souvenirs, sometimes for only a dime in candy-type vending machines. There also are lots of ink stamps on US, Canadian, and European paper notes and paste-on portraits that fit over a bill's original portrait. The writer does not know of any good listing of political stamps on currency, but quite a few notes of this sort have appeared on the internet. And if you look closely at US notes, you occasionally will find a small stamp that directs you to a website that records their travels.

Listed below are the more obvious political countermarks the writer has noted. There probably are many more, likely including some coins stamped with the names of local politicians and given away during political campaigns. This half dollar may be of that sort. "Ike" was the nickname of Dwight D. Eisenhower, and his campaign slogan was "I Like Ike," but he was an Army general until 1948. PoliticalGraveyard.com notes three other politicians named Ike, and this may have been one of their campaign tokens.

IKE / IN / 46

Half Dollar: 1908-O



Half Dollar

Anti-Big Government

A number of letters to editors of numismatic publications during the 1960s concerned Roosevelt dimes that were stamped with individual letter punches. Most have SOB ("Son of a Bitch") countermarks, which are seen on coins dated as late as 1965. They reflect the intense dislike some people had for President Franklin Delano Roosevelt.

They called his New Deal the "Jew Deal." They believed his 1933 order that took the US off the gold standard, prohibited Americans from owning more than \$100 in gold, and required gold coins be turned into banks for melting was part of a conspiracy to transfer the nation's wealth to Jewish bankers. It was suggested in numismatic publications that these coins might have been countermarked by a member of the John Birch Society. It was formed in the 1950s as an ultra-conservative, anti-communist and anti-big government organization that some see as the forerunner of the Tea Party. In any event, the source of these countermarks was never discovered.

SOB

Roosevelt Dime: 1947 (2), 1951 (2), 1958, 1965 (2)



Dime

JEW

Roosevelt Dime: 1948

Seated Liberty Dime: 1875

Hippies

This sort of counter-culturalism thrived in the sixties before most sorts of what are now classified as illegal drugs, such as LSD, were illegal. Some trace its origins to the Free Speech Movement at the University of California, Berkeley. Today it is remembered for such things as the Haight-Ashbury district of San Francisco, psychedelic music, protests against the Vietnam War, the Woodstock music festival and the movie *Easy Rider*.

Contemporary reports from the Bicentennial year indicate 56,000 Lincoln cents were countermarked in California with a penis and testicles by The People's Committee for the Independent and Creative Redecoration of Currencies, presumably a group of hippies left over from the sixties. "Committee members have recently spread these coins randomly throughout the Bay Area, strewing them in playgrounds, feeding them into parking meters, leaving them 'like jelly beans' in Golden Gate Park" (*Oui* 1976: 13). The countermark was so poorly designed and struck that its symbolism is not self-obvious. Since the stamp looks like a weakly struck "T", most people ignored the pieces as mutilations.

Penis and Testicles

Lincoln Cents: 56,000 countermarked



Phallus aimed at
Lincoln's Mouth

Small Cent

Jesus Saves

This was a popular slogan among some hippies during the 1960s and 1970s, but it was also used by missionary churches, and it probably is impossible to determine its exact source.

JESUS / SAVES

US Cent: 1955-D



Small Cent

Prisoners of War and Missing in Action

It seems likely that many Veterans organizations have stamped coins, but this is the only countermark the writer has noted.

P. O. W. / ★ / M. I. A.

Various US Coins



Medal Dies Stamped on Coins

The last category of what might be called political countermarks consists of medal dies that were used to countermark coins. The most prolific issuer was Mel Wacks, who is a well-known California numismatist. His pieces cover a variety of events, both political and non-political. When collecting data for this series, the writer contacted Wacks to see if all pieces of this sort were his. At least one other person issued such countermarked coins, but the issuer is not known. In 2011 Wacks published a comprehensive listing of his pieces ("The Counterstamped Coins of Mel Wacks," *TAMS Journal* 51: 35-41). He produced twenty-one different issues from 1976 to 1984. Many of his stamps are on Peace or Eisenhower dollars. His political commemoratives include:

- 1979 Camp David Summit
- 1981 Sandra Day O'Connor first female Supreme Court Justice
- Inauguration of President Ronald Regan
- Release of Americans held hostage in Iran
- 1982 250th anniversary of George Washington's birth
- 1984 Centennial of President Harry Truman's birth

This is an example of Wacks' work. It commemorates the Camp David Summit that was convened by Jimmy Carter which resulted in a peace treaty between Israel and

Egypt. It was designed by Wacks, and engraved and stamped by Adam Cool as a fund raising device for the Judah L. Magnes Museum. The uncirculated silver dollars sold for \$27.50 (*Coin World*, Oct. 4, 1978).

CAMP DAVID PEACE SUMMIT / Peace Symbol in Circle with BEGIN and Star of David, SADAT and Crescent, and CARTER and 5-pointed Star in its Angles / SEPT. 5-17, 1978

Silver Peace Dollars: 978 struck



Silver Dollar

This image from an Advertisement

This image an actual coin

End of series “Coins Countermarked with Political Messages.”

NI

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NI

Canada J.O.P. Dollar
Stack's-Bowers & Ponterio, NI #1221



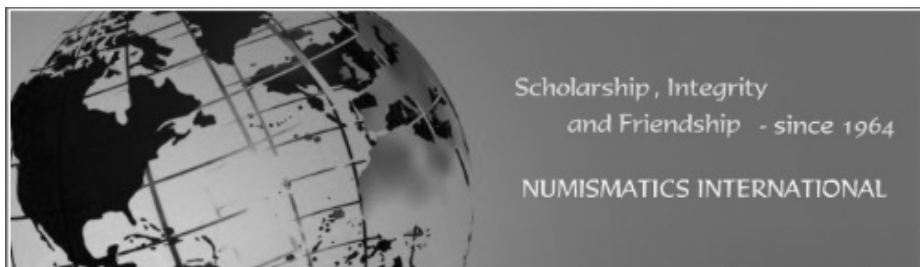
Canada J.O.P. Dollar, ND (1935-36). J.O.P. are the initials of the well-known jeweler and optometrist from Nelson, British Columbia Joseph Olivia Patenaude who handed them out as change in his store. He believed that the introduction of a silver Dollar would benefit the region where he lived, which was known for mining. Courtesy Stack's Bowers and Ponterio, *The January 2014 NYINC*, 14 January 2014, Lot: 10206.

For further information see:

Gingras, Larry. "The J.O.P Silver Dollar." In: *The Canadian Numismatic Journal*, Vol. 4, No. 10 (Oct, 1959), pp. 363-364.

George S. Cuhaj & Thomas Michael, editors, "J.O.P. Dollars" pp.18-22. In: *Canadian Coin Digest*. Iola, WI: Krause Publications. 2012

NI



Napoleon III copper 5 Francs / 20 Reales Pattern Mule
Heritage Rare Coins



Napoleon III copper 5 Francs/20 Reales Pattern Mule by Barre ND (1855), Maz-1738 variety. Mazard relays that when the engraver Barre received the commission to produce trials for the Spanish 20 Reales, he borrowed the Bouvet obverse dies (Mazard 1635 and 1637) as a placeholder for the obverse. This pattern was created with the Maz-1637 laureate obverse and the edge from Maz-1638b “LEY PATRIA REY” and is even more unusual in that it is struck in copper while being listed in Mazard only in silver. Our research has yielded no other examples in copper.

September 25-27, 30 & October 1, 2013 World and Ancient Coins Signature Auction, Long Beach #3026 lot 24588. Courtesy Heritage Rare Coins, ha.com.

NI

H.T.M.S. Chakrinaruebet
Cayón Subastas, NI #2747



Bazan and Royal Thai Navy. Medal commemorating the of launching *H.T.M.S. Chakrinaruebet*. “Factoría Naval de Ferrol • 20 / Enero / 1996.” Silver matte with legend in brilliant finish. 91.50 mm. 375.5 grs. 925/1000 fine. 9.24 mm thick. Such pieces are usually gifts presented to authorities for launching ceremonies. Courtesy Cayón Subastas Live Auction 12. 29-Jan-2014 lot 252.

[The aircraft carrier *H.T.M.S. Chakrinaruebet* (His Thai Majesty’s Ship Protector of the Chakri Dynasty) was built by the Spanish Shipbuilder Bazan and launched in 1996 and commissioned in 1997—*Ed.*] For more information see the web page: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/HTMS_Chakri_Naruebet.

NI

Béla IV of Hungary
CNG



HUNGARY. Béla IV. 1235-1270. AR Denar (15mm, 1.08 g, 6h). + REX BELA · QVARTVS, *Agnus Dei* (Lamb of God) standing left, head right; long cross in foreground / VNGA · · RIC, Béla seated facing on throne, holding globus cruciger and lis-tipped scepter. Huszár 294; Réthy 229. Ex Leonard O. Greenfield Collection (Triton XIII, 4 January 2010), lot 1822.

Béla was the king of Hungary during the invasion of Europe by the Mongols, who invaded Hungary in 1241. On 11 April, near the town of Mohi, a small army of Hungarians led by Béla, and supported by troops from the Knights Templar and the Teutonic Knights, was defeated by the Mongols under their generals Batu. Subutai, Shiban, and Berke. Afterward, Béla fled to the west, and pled, in vain, for help from the Pope and Holy Roman Empire. Over the subsequent year, the Mongols attempted to subdue the kingdom, but ultimately were forced to abandon their conquests and return east after the passing of the Great Khan Ogedai. Soon thereafter, Béla significantly reformed the kingdom by granting large tracts of land to his supporters, who were required to fortify their new domains in preparation against future invasions. The king enacted many other reforms that further strengthened the realm, and were so successful that Béla is thought of as the “second founder” of the Kingdom of Hungary.

Courtesy CNG: eAuction 313, October 23, 2013, Lot: 557

NI

Coin Quiz

Bob Fritsch, NI #LM134

England and the British Commonwealth is our subject for this issue. We will take a departure and ask questions about history and membership instead of coins. Check http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/British_Commonwealth for some answers.

1. What is the formal name of the British Commonwealth?
2. How many nations are in the Commonwealth?
3. Which of these countries does not belong to the Commonwealth? Cameroon, Dominica, Guyana, Ireland, Lesotho, Mozambique?
4. About how many people are in the Commonwealth?

Assize of 1125

In the numismatic literature there is mention of the assize of Christmas 1124/25 concerning moneyers in England. An assize is a judicial inquest and according to Google “a court that formerly sat at intervals in each county of England and Wales to administer the civil and criminal law. In 1972 the civil jurisdiction of assizes was transferred to the High Court, and the criminal jurisdiction to the Crown Court.”

The account below is taken from page 190 of *The Anglo-Saxon Chronicle* edited from the translation in *Monumenta Historica Britannica and Other Versions*, by the late J. A. GILES, D.C.L. New Edition London, G. Bell and Sons, Ltd. 1914.

Accessed on internet 2014-Jan-11.

http://archive.org/stream/anglosaxonchroni00gile/anglosaxonchroni00gile_djvu.txt

The Christmas recorded here for the year 1125 was at the change from 1124-25.

1125. Before Christmas, this year, king Henry sent from Normandy to England, and commanded that all the mint-men of England should be deprived of their limbs, namely of their right hands and of certain other members. And this because a man might have a pound, and yet not be able to spend one penny at a market. And Roger bishop of Salisbury sent over all England, and desired all of them to come to Winchester at Christmas; and when they came thither his men took them one by one, and cut off their right hands. All this was done within the twelve days, and with much justice, because they had ruined this land with the great quantity of bad metal which they all bought.

Later historians have cited this differently, for example: Mark Blackburn “Coinage and Currency Under Henry I: A Review” in *Anglo-Norman Studies XIII. Proceedings of the Battle Conference 1990* edited by Marjorie Chibnall. Boydell Press, Woodbridge, 1991.



“In this year King Henry sent to England from Normandy before Christmas, and ordered that all the moneyers who were in England should be mutilated—i.e. that each should lose the right hand and be castrated. That was because the man who had a pound could not get a pennyworth at a market. And Bishop Roger of Salisbury sent over all England and ordered them all to come to Winchester at Christmas. When they got there, they were taken one by one and each deprived of the right hand and castrated. All this was done before the Twelfth Night, and it was done very justly because they had ruined all the country with their great false-dealing, which they all paid for.”

Image of the tomb of Bishop Roger in Salisbury Cathedral.

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Salisburycathedraltombprobablyrogerofsalisbury.jpg>

Coin Attribution Assistance

4 Maravedís Santo Domingo



This coin appeared on Jim Martin's website "Moneta Gallery Coin Museum" and then Jim posted an inquiry on the Numismatics International page in Yahoo! Groups seeking to attribute the coin which came with the following description.

Spain 4 Maravedís - 1519. Struck for use in Santo Domingo and subsequently counter-struck with ANCHOR symbol for use in Jamaica. Supposedly the, or one of, the first coins struck exclusively for use in the New World. Seville Spain mint. Las Monedas Españolas Del 411... # 2834; Cayón. Weight: 2.12 g; about 27 mm. Metal: copper.

NI member Jorge Proctor is an expert in Santo Domingo coinage and offered the following information.

The coin's description does not match that from *Las Monedas Españolas, Del Tremis a Euro, Del 411 a Nuestros Dias*, by Adolfo, Clemente and Juan Cayon #2834. Coin #2834 from that book can be found on Vol. 1, page 440 and this is a 4 Reales of Toledo from the reign of Ferdinand and Isabella. The Cayón attribution appears as:

REYES CATOLICOS: 4 REALES (Plata): 2834 N.D. TOLEDO
M y estrella en rev. 19 690

Now, the correct attribution of this coin is that it is a 4 Maravedís minted in Santo Domingo, circa 1544. Notice the year that I indicate. These coins actually started being minted in 1542 and were continuously minted until 1555, when the design was changed. The attribution as circa 1544 comes from the study of the legend on the coins, which shows the use of a good number of gothic letters, which indicates an early mintage. Now, as for the countermark of the anchor, yes, this countermark is believed to coincide with an order given in July of 1611 in Jamaica, where the 4 Maravedís coins from Santo Domingo were being countermarked there to revalue them on the island from 1/51 to 1/11 of a Real.

There was a previous countermark of a letter S on these coins which is also from Jamaica. But this other countermark was placed on the 4 Maravedís coins between

1581-82 to revalue them on this island, from 1/25 to 1/11 of a silver real. The countermark S has been reported in four forms: Ordinary S, Long S, Seriffed S and Retrograde S.

Now, notice that the information above, is as researched and written by Mr. Robert Barker (*The Numismatic Circular*, June 1978). But there is one big correction. Mr. Barker actually believed that the anchor was the countermark placed in 1581-82, and the S was the one used in 1611. But the sequence had to be readjusted thanks to recent finds from Nombre de Dios, Panama, which have demonstrated that the countermark S (Ordinary and in Retrograde), was in use prior to 1596; date when this city was destroyed and abandoned after Sir Francis Drake's attack (the settlement was relocated to Portobello in 1597). As expected, not a single coin showing the countermark of the anchor has been found on this early settlement, which has helped to identify the correct sequence of these countermarks, which should then be: the S for the 1581-82 period, and the anchor for 1611 (the correction which I have already made above).

Now, one comment that I can make is that this is a nice coin. Not necessarily because it has not been cleaned. But because of the almost complete Gothic legend. The early Dominican coins with complete or almost complete Gothic legends (with or without countermark) are really hard to find and can command a premium to a knowledgeable collector.

Hope this helps.

Jorge [Proctor]



Quiz answers

1.) Commonwealth of Nations. 2.) 53. 3.) Ireland. 4.) 1.8 billion.

Picture Quiz Answer

2 Mouton d'or of Jeanne, the Duchess of Brabant and her husband, Wenceslas, Duke of Luxembourg. The Duchy of Brabant comprised an area which included Brussels, the modern capital of Belgium. The Duchy's coat of arms, a golden lion with red claws and tongue on a black field, provided the colors for the modern flag of Belgium. The denomination 2 Mouton d'or refers to the obverse design, the Lamb (Mouton is French for sheep). The "Lamb of God" or *Agnus Dei* is depicted with traditional regalia—a halo, cross and flag. The reverse design is an ornate Floriate (or leafy) cross in a quadrilobe. Several fleur de lis appear in the angles and outside the quadrilobe. The legends for both the obverse and reverse are full, owing to the excellence of the strike. This very attractive specimen was struck on an unwrinkled flan at the Vilvorde Mint, just north of Brussels in the year 1370 or 1371. Answer courtesy Stack's Bowers Galleries cataloger Chris Chatigny

<http://www.stacksbowers.com/NewsMedia/Blogs/TabId/780/ArtMID/2678/ArticleID/64292/Choice-2-Mouton-dor-of-Jeanne-and-Wenceslas.aspx>





“Elegie.” 45×65 mm silver, signed VP Dautel and ROME/1904. By Pierre-Victor Dautel (1873-1951), Courtesy Stacks-Bowers & Ponterio *The January 2014 NYINC Auction* lot 2103.